

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 NRC-05 DOE-15 SOE-02 ACDA-12
USIE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /138 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TNILES:EK
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
AF:WEDMONDSON
AF/W:PCHAVEAS
AF/S:LMACFARLANE
S/AS:RKELLEY
PM/NPP:ALOCKE
IO/SCT:AJILLSON

-----096093 230300Z /63

O 230210Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY, VIENNA FOR IAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, PARM, PORG, UNSC, SF

SUBJECT:POSSIBLE UNSC ACTION ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR
ACTIVITY

REF: A) USUN 933; B) USUN 898

1. DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH MISSION'S ASSESSMENT THAT
RECENT COMMENTS BY SOVIETS AND AFRICANS INDICATE THAT
WE MAY BE FACED WITH NEW MOVE IN COUNCIL TO CUT OFF
WESTERN NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA IN LATE
MARCH AND EARLY APRIL.

2. IN VIEW DELICATE STATUS OF OUR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS
WITH SAG ON FUTURE NUCLEAR COOPERATION, UNSC DEBATE AT
THIS TIME WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL. ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE
THAT EFFORT TO DEFLECT AFRICAN PRESSURES DEPARTMENT
CITED-REFTELS FACES-UNCERTAIN PROSPECTS, DEPARTMENT
BELIEVES THAT WE SHOULD MAKE THE EFFORT. ON BASIS
PREVIOUS ACTIVITY IN UN ON THIS ISSUE, WE HAVE IMPRESSION
THAT NIGERIAN ATTITUDE MAY BE KEY FACTOR.

3. FOR USUN: MISSION SHOULD CONSULT WITH OTHER FOUR
WESTERN SC MEMBERS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY SHARE OUR

CONCERNS ON THIS SCORE AND WOULD BE PREPARED, IF
NECESSARY, TO WEIGH IN WITH NIGERIANS AND OTHERS TO WORK
FOR POSTPONEMENT OF ANY COUNCIL ACTION. YOU SHOULD
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INFORM OTHER FOUR THAT WE WILL BE PREPARED TO BRIEF
NIGERIANS ON STATUS OF OUR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS OF
FUTURE NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH SAG IN EFFORT TO
CONVINCE THEM THAT MOVE IN COUNCIL AT THIS TIME WOULD
NOT BE HELPFUL IN ACHIEVING GENERALLY HELD GOALS IN
THIS AREA. WOULD OTHER FOUR BE PREPARED TO BRIEF
NIGERIANS ON STATUS OF ANY EFFORTS THEY MAY HAVE UNDER-
TAKEN TO PERSUADE SAG TO ADHERE TO NPT AND ACCEPT
INTERIM SAFEGUARDS? IN USUN'S VIEW, WOULD NIGERIAN
ACQUIESCENCE BE SUFFICIENT AT THIS POINT TO DEFLECT
PRESSURES FOR COUNCIL ACTION, OR HAVE SOVIETS AND
AFRICANS BEEN ABLE TO PUSH MATTERS TO THE POINT WHERE
NIGERIANS COULD NOT STOP COUNCIL ACTION EVEN IF THEY
SO DESIRED?

4. FOR LAGOS: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSESS-
MENT OF NIGERIAN INTENTIONS REGARDING POSSIBLE MOVE IN
COUNCIL ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR ISSUE. WOULD US
BRIEFING ON OUR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH SAG BE
SUFFICIENT TO DISSUADE NIGERIANS FROM ACTION AT THIS
POINT? IN VIEW RELATIVE URGENCY OF SITUATION, WE
BELIEVE BEST PROCEDURE WOULD BE FOR EMBASSY TO BRIEF

NIGERIANS AT A HIGH LEVEL ON THE BASIS OF TALKING POINTS
TO BE PROVIDED SEPTEL. ASSUMING NIGERIAN IS
ENCOURAGING AND IF DETAILED, TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ARE
RAISED AT BRIEFING, DEPARTMENT OFFICER WOULD BE
PREPARED TO GO TO LAGOS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH
NIGERIANS IF EMBASSY BELIEVED THAT THIS WOULD BE BEST
MEANS TO SECURE FAVORABLE NIGERIAN DECISION ON OUR
REQUEST. (REFTELS BEING REPEATED LAGOS.)

5. FYI: IN VIEW OF POSSIBILITY THAT WE WILL BE UNABLE
TO TURN OFF COUNCIL DEBATE ON THIS ISSUE, DEPARTMENT IS
EXAMINING ON PRIORITY BASIS ELEMENTS OF A DRAFT RESO-
LUTION ON THIS ISSUE WHICH MIGHT BE USED TO PREEMPT
AFRICAN EFFORT TO OBTAIN SECURITY COUNCIL PROHIBITION
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ON ALL FORMS OF NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, RESOLUTIONS, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE074812
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TNILES:EK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780127-0507
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780331/aaaabafm.tel
Line Count: 139
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e5b3d7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USUN NEW YORK 933, 78 USUN NEW YORK 898
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3223509
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE UNSC ACTION ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR ACTIVITY
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, PORC, SF, US, UNSC
To: USUN NEW YORK LONDON MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e5b3d7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014